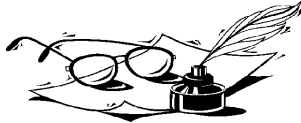




Corner of Beaver & Burrowes



A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

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Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 29, Number 3, March 2022

From Pastor Paul's Desk.....

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, the Healer of the Soul, and our Everlasting Redeemer. I am so excited about what the Lord has in store for us at Albright-Bethune. We have an amazing opportunity to be a bridge in the community by mending their souls with the word. Engaging their hearts in stewardship and prayer. All of this is done by a Beloved Community engaging in planting the seeds of Jesus Christ, our Hope. Building Bridges of connections throughout the community. (Matthew 25:34-36, Luke 4:18-19).).

Hello Family. I pray all is well with you and your family. As we engage in this Lenten season, we have several exciting activities to participate in and fellowship. Every Wednesday evening starting March 9 at 7 pm, we will have a midweek worship experience. We will be doing a joint 7 last words of Christ with Summerdale UMC. Pastor Bobby Jones, Jr., and Pastor Leah Williams will preach over the next weeks during Lent (more details are below). On the last evening of this Worship Experience, we will take an offering for the Preacher's Aid Society. See this link for details about the society: <https://www.preachersaid.org/what-we-do>. Also, every morning during Lent, we will have a prayer and devotional time on Facebook Live with Pastor Paul starting at 7:30 am. We will also meet on March 11 and 25 (the 2nd and 4th Fridays) for our Prayer Service at 7 pm in-person and on Zoom. On Easter Sunday, we will do a breaking the chain service. Each Sunday starting on March 6, everyone is encouraged to write a prayer of hope, grief, joy, the future, etc., on a strip of paper. We will wrap the chain around the church and on Easter Sunday we will do a ceremony of breaking the chains.

Dear God. We ask for your wisdom, for your strength, and power to be constantly present within us. Lord, we pray you will make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Let the gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you. We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. Lord, as we pray, we ask that you be with the families of those affected by the War in Ukraine. Lord, be their strength and be there to present help in this time. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways. Amen. Sincerely, [Paul McReynolds](#)

• **T**HE LAST SEVEN WORDS SESSIONS - Albright-Bethune is partnering with Summerdale UMC of Summerdale, PA to present the last seven words of Christ on six Wednesday nights beginning on March 9. You can watch all six sessions from our Facebook.com/AlbrightBethuneUMC site or the Summerdale Facebook site at Facebook.com/sdaleumc203. In addition, you can participate in-person when three of the sessions will originate from Albright-Bethune. On the last Wednesday service, an offering will be taken for the preacher's aid society of the UMC. **Pastor Leah Williams** of Lewisburg Beaver Memorial UMC and **Pastor Bobby Jones** of Summerdale UMC will assist Pastor McReynolds with the six sessions. See Pastor Paul if you want more information or have questions about the sessions that are listed below:

- March 9 at 7 PM: "**Paradise**" - Summerdale UMC - Pastor Paul McReynolds;
- March 16 at 7 PM: "**Momma**" - Albright-Bethune UMC - Pastor Bobby Jones;
- March 23 at 7 PM: "**Forsaken**" - Summerdale UMC - Pastor Leah Williams;
- March 30 at 7 PM: "**Thirst**" - Albright-Bethune UMC - Pastor Bobby Jones;
- April 6 at 7 PM: "**It's Finished**" - Summerdale UMC - Pastor Paul McReynolds;
- April 13 at 7 PM - "**Homecoming**" - Albright-Bethune UMC - Pastor Leah Williams.

• **B**IRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: March 7 – **Tonya & Michael Black's** Wedding Anniversary; March 9 - **Braden Dyreson's** Birthday; and March 9 – **Tara & Krystaufeux Williams'** Wedding Anniversary. Give Blannie your special dates (call/text 814-777-6550 or email blanniebowen@gmail.com) so we can honor you on your special dates.

• **C**ONDOLENCES – All in the congregation extend their condolences to Carla Roser-Jones and her family on the death of her mother (Carrie) on February 27. Just last month, Carrie celebrated her 100th birthday. She worshipped with us while her health allowed.

• **P**RAYER SERVICE – Our church is holding a prayer service on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at 7 p.m. You can participate in the service either in the sanctuary or virtually via `Zoom. You can join the service by Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82042213923>. Please contact Pastor McReynolds if you have any questions or want more information.

• **N**OTHING BUT NETS – Since 2006, the UMC has been fighting malaria as a founding partner of a group called *Nothing But Nets*. The UMC, the United Nations Foundation, and various partners have built this grassroots movement to end malaria and over 13 million bed nets have been sent to families in Africa. Just \$10 buys a bed net, distributes it to a family, and provides education on how to use it. The partners have raised over \$70 million. You can learn more about Nothing But Nets at [About Us – Nothing But Nets](#). Also, you can see **JoDee Dyreson** about how you can contribute to this project during college basketball's March Madness.

• **S**ERVICES WITH MENNONITE CHURCH – Since 2000, Albright-Bethune and the University Mennonite Church have held joint worship services during Black History Month. This year our 22nd annual service was held on February 27 when the Mennonite Church joined our Albright-Bethune service. Also, on March 20 Albright-Bethune is being asked to participate in the Mennonite service. See Pastor McReynolds if you have questions about the services.

• **A**SH WEDNESDAY - On March 2, Albright-Bethune and Emmanuel Lutheran Church held a joint Ash Wednesday service. Pastor Paul McReynolds and Pastor Logan Wilmoth of Emmanuel led the service and Pastor Wilmoth also delivered the sermon. Jennifer Saunders served as the liturgist and Jason Adams provided the music for the service.

• **HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE** - United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries. Gifts to support can be made in the following ways:

- Online at <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause. The UMC community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from the violence (From UM Committee on Relief).

• **WEAVING WISDOM CONVERSATIONS** - Three intergenerational conversations that are part of Grace Hampton's Gen2Gen national fellowship will be held at Albright-Bethune on March 18, April 8, and April 29 at 7 p.m. The three evenings of intergenerational conversation will feature art, music, and history around the theme of "Weaving Wisdom: Let's Talk About It!" Albright-Bethune has partnered with Dr. Hampton on a community-based project that seeks to expand interactions across the generations. She is a retired Penn State administrator and professor who is one of only 15 individuals who were selected to receive the [Gen2Gen Innovation Fellowship](#) for innovators who are bridging generational divides. Each year, the Encore Foundation selects practical visionaries who have new ideas for putting generational connection and collaboration front and center in ways that benefit all ages. Dr. Hampton is the Co-founder of the Weaving Wisdom: Fabrics and The Stories They Tell project which seeks to enrich relationships between generations and cultures through traditional fabric arts. She will use her \$10,000 fellowship to support "Weaving Wisdom" which is a community-focused project designed to use the communicative power of the arts to increase communication between older adults and younger individuals. The project uses Kente and Adinkra cloths, American quilts, and basketry to show how cultural values, social norms, heritage, and the history of nations, communities, and families can be transmitted between generations. See Pastor Paul if you have questions about this partnership.

• **GOD'S TROMBONES** - A production of James Weldon Johnson's God's Trombones with Essence 2 Ltd was presented on February 25 at Good Shepherd Catholic Church. Several individuals from Albright-Bethune participated in the production. Pastor McReynolds, AnneMarie Mingo, and Jason Adams had key roles in the production. Also, Jason Yates, one of our former worshippers who was our music director and vocalist, was featured during the production. Donations were collected to benefit the PA Innocence Project.

• **AMAZON SMILE \$\$** - For the 4th quarter of 2021, our church received a charitable donation of \$31.38 from the AmazonSmile program because of qualifying purchases that our members, worshippers, and supporters made. Also, for the 2021 calendar year, our church received a total of \$62.41 from the AmazonSmile program. Thanks to you and other customers for shopping at smile.amazon.com or using the Amazon app with AmazonSmile ON, everyday purchases that make an impact. Please ask your family and friends to also use AmazonSmile and designate Albright-Bethune as their charity.

- **SPRING GRADUATES** - If you are graduating from high school or college in May or June, we want to honor you and celebrate your accomplishment. Please contact **Blannie Bowen** at 237-5131 or by email at blanniebowen@gmail.com with your information. Remember your congregation if you are moving away. Be sure to worship with us when you return for a visit. If you are staying in the area, continue to worship regularly with us.
- **UMC SCHOLARSHIPS & LOANS** - United Methodist high school seniors and college students who are also active in their church and/or in the conference may apply for a Fall 2022 scholarship offered through the UMC General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Students must apply online before **March 24** at <https://www.gbhem.org/loans-and-scholarships/scholarships>. Funds for these scholarships come from offerings taken on United Methodist Student Day, World Communion Sunday, and Native American Sunday.
- **FINANCE CORNER** - Each month the amount our church collects via offerings is posted in this section of the newsletter. Our February collections totaled \$6,081. See Cathy Bowen if you have questions about our church's finances.
- **YOUR ITEMS** - Send, email to blanniebowen@gmail.com or give your items to **Blannie** by the **20th** of the month. Send your birthday, awards, church presentations, writings, etc.

Calendar

March 2	Ash Wednesday
March 4	World Day of Prayer
March 6-12	Penn State Spring Break
March 9	Last 7 Words – Paradise , 7 p.m. (Facebook Live)
March 11	Prayer Service, 7 p.m. (In-person and via Zoom)
March 13	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 15	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
March 16	Last 7 Words – Momma , 7 p.m. (Albright-Bethune & Facebook Live)
March 18	Weaving Wisdom -Let's Talk About It Session, 7 p.m.
March 20	Joint Worship at University Mennonite Church
March 23	Last 7 Words – Forsaken , 7 p.m. (Facebook Live)
March 25	Prayer Service, 7 p.m. (In-person and via Zoom)
March 27	UMCOR Sunday (Formerly One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday)
March 30	Last 7 Words – Thirst , 7 p.m. (Albright-Bethune & Facebook Live)
April 6	Last 7 Words – It's Finished , 7 p.m. (Facebook Live)
April 8	Weaving Wisdom -Let's Talk About It Session, 7 p.m.
April 12	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
April 13	Last 7 Words – Homecoming , 7 p.m. (A-B UMC & Facebook Live)
April 15	Good Friday
April 17	Easter Sunday
April 29	Weaving Wisdom -Let's Talk About It Session, 7 p.m. Penn State Classes End
May 1	Native American Ministries Sunday
May 5	National Day of Prayer
May 6-8	Penn State Commencement Exercises